Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 00689 221447Z ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W

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R 212030Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9474 INFO USDA FAS WASHDC

UNCLAS BOGOTA 0689

PASS: ARA/ECP STATE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ELTN, CO

SUBJECT: FORMER ASST. SECRETARY AGRICULTURE FELTNER'S NOV. 19 LETTER TO COLOMBIAN VICE-MINISTER AGRICULTURE

- 1. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY DID NOT RECEIVE ORIGINAL FORMER ASST. SECRETARY AGRICULTURE FELTNER'S NOV. 19 LETTER TO FORMER COLOMBIAN VICE-MINISTER AGRICULTURE VELEZ RE. U.S. CONCERN ON ITEMS DISCUSSED AT EXECUTIVE SESSION LAST SRG MEETING FOR TRANSMITAL, APHIS APPROVAL OBTAINED FOR SENDING MINAG COPY OF LETTER.
- 2. DR. OMAR SANCHEZ, LIVESTOCK ADVISOR AT MINAG, REPLIED TO EMBASSY IN JANUARY 18 LETTER. OUR FREE TRANSLATION OF BODY SANCHEZ' LETTER FOLLOWS: "IT IS SUPERFLUOUS TO MENTION THA ANY OBSERVATION ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THIS PROJECT ALWAYS HAS MARITED OUR MOST DEDICATED ATTENTION AND IT IS THE SPIRIT OF THE GOVERNMENT TO COMPLY WHOLLY WITH THE COMMITMENTS MADE WITHIN THE BINATIONAL ACCORD. SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP OF THE PROJECT AND AS A RESULT OF THE OFFICIAL COMMENTS MADE THERE, THE FOLLOWING MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN:

 A. NATIONALIZATION OF THE MOBILE UNITS OF CONTROL OF THE PROJECT.

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B. PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT WITH THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTIOQUIA ON THE SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT FOR THE CONTROL OF ANIMAL MOVEMENTS.
C. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONTROL POINTS FOR THEIR FUNCTIONING 24 HOURS DAILY.
D. PROGRAMMING FOR TESTING THE POTENCY OF VACCINES RECENTLY PRODUCED.

E. REVISION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE 1977 PROJECT BUDGET. IN CONSIDERATION OF THE EXISTING LIMITATIONS AND THE OPERATING NATURE OF THE PROJECT, IT IS OUR OPINION THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CG HAVE BEEN RESPECTED AND HAVE RESULTED IN CONCRETE ACTIONS.

WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT IN THE NEXT MEETINGS WITH THE CG AND THE BINATIONAL COMMITTEE PLANS CAN BE MADE FOR EXPANDING THE PROGRAM AND TO IMPROVE THE PROJECT'S PERFORMANCE BASED ON THE EXPERIENCE OF THE PAST YEARS."

COMMENT: UPON RECEIPT OF STATE TEL. 8448 WE SENT LETTER TO SANCHEZ ADVISING FEB 7-8 DATES ACCEPTABLE TO USDA FOR JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING. IN LETTER WE ALSO MENTIONED USDA CONTINUES BELIEVE MEETING SHOULD FOCUS ON EVALUATING ADMINSTRATIVE CAPABILITIES AND PROGRAM OBJECTIVES PRIOR TO RECOMMENDING PROGRAM ENLARGEMENTS. SANCHEZ JAN 8 REPLY WRITTEN BEFORE HE RECEIVED OUR LATEST LETTER. SANCHEZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment:

Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BOGOTA00689
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D770024-0615 Format: TEL From: BOGOTA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Expiration:

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770131/aaaabazt.tel

Line Count: 80 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 7e1561d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION ARA

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 15-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3543052 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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TAGS: EAGR, ELTN, CO, US, (FELTNER), (VELEZ)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7e1561d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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